

A photograph of two young boys sitting in a simulator, possibly a car or a flight simulator. The boy on the left is wearing a dark blue visor with a red logo and a white shirt with blue stripes. He is holding a steering wheel. The boy on the right is wearing a white and red jersey with a logo on the chest. They are both looking forward with concentration. In the background, other children and adults are visible, suggesting a public event or fair.

TIP OF THE SWORD

April 29, 2005

Incirlik Air Base, Turkey

Spring Fling

Children enjoy fun and games at event

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On the cover:

Loren Grahm, and DJ Adams, both age 8, check out the siren, loudspeaker and other features of a 39th Security Forces Squadron humvee. The vehicle was a part of the Spring Fling festival Saturday at Arkadas Park. Other activities included horse rides, face painting and a number of food booths. See related article, Page 10. (Photo by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards)

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



By Col. Robert Suminsby
39th Air Base Wing vice commander

Gas Prices

A recent AAFES press release advises overseas customers to expect an increase in gas prices next month. While it's easy to think that gas prices "back home" are much lower (because they probably were when you were last in the states), it's important to remember that AAFES prices are set based on the average stateside price. With rising crude oil prices, the cost of gas in the states has risen sharply. A complicating factor is that the only grade of fuel offered here in Turkey is Super Unleaded Plus or 98 octane. The new price for Super Plus unleaded will soon increase to \$2.530 per gallon. The price for super unleaded fuel coupons will be \$2.530 per gallon and the price for diesel fuel will remain at \$2.280 per gallon. No one likes to pay higher prices at the pump, but please don't shoot the messenger or blame AAFES....we're paying higher prices because everyone else is, too.

CSIP

The U.S. Air Forces in Europe Combat and Special Interest Programs are a way for everyone to get involved with each other, the mission, and the community in general. Combat Education encourages people to learn each and every day. Many Air Force members focus on the Air Force mission and put off the education goals they set before they joined. Continuing a formal education can further your career and Combat Education can help. The education office has class listings for online and traditional classes. As little as an hour a week can assist you in getting your Community College of the Air Force degree or any other degree you are shooting for. For more information call the education office at 6-3211.

Curfew

Remember the base curfew from 1 a.m. to 5

a.m. applies to everyone stationed at Incirlik, including dependents and people who are TDY.

Unless you have prior approval from your commander to be outside the local area, you are required to be on base during the curfew hours. If you need to make an early morning trip to the airport, the same rules apply – simply notify your commander in advance and get approval. If you return to the gate after the curfew, your name will be taken and passed to your commander for resolution. This direction is an order. Military members who do not comply with this order may have to face trial by court-martial, non-judicial punishment under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, administrative discharge or other disciplinary action for an offense under article 90 or 92 of the UCMJ.

Off limits

The first day of May in Turkey is often marked by demonstrations in major cities, some of which have turned violent in the past. There are demonstrations planned in Adana, so the entire city of Adana is off limits from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. People can still travel to and through Incirlik Village and the local area as long as they do not go into or through Adana. People on leave should be extremely cautious when they enter any major city in Turkey as demonstrations will likely be taking place throughout Turkey.

Some other things to remember while out and about are:

- ♦ Avoid Turkish Government facilities when possible
- ♦ Stay tuned to AFN and the Commanders' Channel for up-to-date travel advisories
- ♦ Have an alternate route of travel which can be used if you encounter a protest
- ♦ Be familiar with your surroundings; know where your exits are
- ♦ Have local currency, a phone card, or a cellular phone in the event of an emergency
- ♦ Let someone know where you are going and your expected time of return

As a reminder if you see anything suspicious or notice a large gathering after the off limits time, immediately leave the area and notify the law enforcement desk at 6-3200.

Getting it

Commander shows being a wingman is a way of life

By Lt. Col. Thomas Ventriglia

39th Maintenance Squadron

When I first heard about the Wingman program, I have to admit I scratched my head. How do I make people look out for each other better? If they are not doing it now, how will giving them a card make any difference?

What I came to realize is I assumed our people already knew what the expectation was and many chose to ignore it. I was wrong. Somewhere along the way, some of our folks missed that they were part of something bigger. They missed that they had a responsibility to the team. This new program was the fix to getting that expectation passed on.

I taught the Wingman concept when I was a Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor and I saw huge success. By pointing out those accomplishments that were in line with the Wingman concept and reinforcing them, the concept spread and the sense of unity and pride in my students sky rocketed.

That was in an academic environment, but this is “real world;” do the same rules apply? I quickly realized the same concepts work out here, too. One of the best ways of passing on what being a Wingman is all about is to give examples of people who “got it” and have people draw on those they can relate to. Here are just a few:

A cadet in field training turned down a full business scholarship to Florida State University to take a shot at getting a ROTC scholarship.

“I learned quickly that business is about making profit for yourself and your company,” she said when I asked why she gave away a sure thing. “I needed to know at the end of the day my efforts meant more than how much money I made. I needed to be part of something more important than myself.”

I was stunned. Two weeks later, she maxed her physical training score and was getting back on the track to run again with the second group. I almost stopped her from testing because I knew she had severe blisters on her feet from new shoes.

She said she was fine but when she came off the track the first time she was limping. I asked what she was doing getting in with the second group. She told me that one of the other cadets was facing removal from camp because she was having trouble passing the run and she was going to pace and help her.

I told her that if she injured herself she also faced being removed from camp. She just nodded. After the second heat, both of the cadets were at the finish line in tears; the second cadet had passed. The other cadets gathered around and were congratulating them profusely. Many missed the fact there was blood coming out of the first cadets shoes. I didn’t, I knew here was a person that “got it.”

A cadet back at my detachment faced losing his scholarship because he was not meeting the weight standards. When I counseled him, he was upset at first and then smiled.

“I won’t let you down sir,” he said. “I’ll graduate and get my commission. This just makes it a little harder, but I’ve never been

proud of anything that came easy.”

In three months he lost 25 pounds and became one of the fitness instructors for the cadet wing. He had been to the brink himself and wanted to be sure nobody else that had the will to succeed would be out of the program. He “got it.”

I recently had a member of my squadron crash through a window to prevent someone from hurting themselves with a knife. Why would he put himself into such a potentially dangerous predicament?

“Because I couldn’t have lived with myself if something terrible had happened and I had the ability to stop it,” he said. He “got it.”

A story circulated through the squadron about three people drinking in the dorms. When two of them got up to go drive to the alley, the third grabbed a baseball bat and threatened them until they gave up the idea. Though I do not encourage this particular approach, I loudly applaud and commend the passion and determination. Better to receive a letter of reprimand for threatening violence than to have to attend the court martial, or even worse, funeral of a friend he did not stop from driving drunk. He “got it.”

A few weeks ago, the morning was a little gray, but nothing someone from Oregon, like me, could not handle. If it rained, it was okay because I ran in the rain a lot before; what was the difference? The difference was how it rains here in Turkey versus Oregon.

About 15 minutes later, Airman 1st Class Brad McDurmort was driving in the pounding rain and lightning to a dental appointment and saw my drenched hide running on the triangle.

He could have easily gone right by and not even thought twice. There are many that probably would. He did not. He chose to stop and make sure this less than brilliant individual, out running in lightning, got home safe.

His concern for somebody else’s well being over rode his concern of being late to an official appointment. Brad, thanks for “getting it.”

There are many of our folks out there that still just do not get it. Perhaps it is because they do not think they are worth it or that they cannot make a difference, so why bother? Let me say this, the most valuable gift I could ever give all of you would be the ability to see yourselves through my eyes for one day. You would see how important and special you all are and the differences you are making every day.

We serve so others may live, taste freedom and not have to go into harms way. Every one of us makes a difference, even if it is just taking the time to get some old codger out of the rain. If you see someone looking out for a friend or making a sacrifice for the good of the team, reinforce it. Let leadership know so they can present a Wingman coin or just walk up and thank the person yourself.

It is amazing the difference a pat on the back can make. If you are one of the folks that get it, thanks. Keep doing great things because it could be that one seemingly small gesture that finally clicks the light on for someone else. You could be the reason someone steps from being in the Wingman program to them incorporating it in their values and making it a way of life. Lead the way!



YOUR TURN

What do you do to stay motivated while you are exercising?

"I don't like to run, so when I do I have on an MP3 player that plays music to help me stay focused on running"

— **Staff Sgt.**

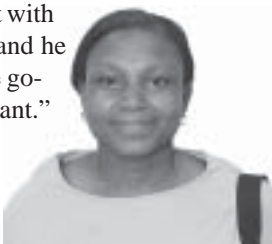
Eric Stone,

39th Communications Squadron



"I work out with my husband, and he helps keep me going. He's a tyrant."

— **Sylvia**
Devese, 39th
Communica-
tions Squad-
ron



"I prefer to play sports. It's the competition that keeps me going."

— **Senior**
Airman Joshua
Tisdale, 39th
Maintenance Squadron



"I concentrate on that dress that's hanging up in my closet and reaching my goal"

— **Shelia**
Harris, 39th
Mission
Support Squadron



"I take my dog running with me. That way I have to chase my dog and keep up or I listen to music."

— **Capt.**
Brandon
Christensen, 39th Medical Squadron



To submit a question for "Your Turn," call 6-6060 or e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil

Storknesting helps expecting mothers

By **Capt. Damika Evans**

39th Medical Squadron

People planning on starting, or expanding, their family at Incirlik should know about an important program in place to help them.

Incirlik's 39th Medical Squadron has significantly modified the labor and delivery services for pregnant women.

The majority of prenatal care is taken care of at Incirlik. When a pregnant woman reaches 34 to 36 weeks gestation, she leaves Turkey for storknesting.

Storknesting is when a woman travels to another area for labor and delivery services.

The 39th MDS encourages families to storknest in Germany. The majority of Incirlik deliveries take place at Spangdahlem Air Base or Bittburg, Germany. If the pregnancy is particularly high-risk or if complications arise during the prenatal period, the mother is recommended delivery at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany.

As of August, the 39th MDS started storknesting due to concerns about host nation care. The 39th MDS is in active participation with local medical facilities to bring their capabilities up to accepted international stan-

dards. While progress is being made, it is unclear as to exactly when the 39th MDS will recommend using these facilities.

Families who elect to deliver in the United States are required to arrange for care with an obstetrician under the TRICARE Program, and mothers must depart Turkey no later than 34 weeks gestation.

Lodging, transportation and meals are paid for by the storknesting member; however people will fly "Space-A" when possible to reduce travel cost. Mothers must dis-enroll from TRICARE Europe prior to departure, and re-enroll in TRICARE when they get to the United States.

Families must research this option early, with assistance from the women's health clinic, TRICARE office, internet and their local family support center. Services from a local military treatment facility may be used with prior arrangement with MTF's commander if the family will reside nearby. Parents are advised that return to Incirlik may take six to eight weeks because of newborn birth certificate and passport processing delays. A doctor's note may be required for the mother to return.

For more information, call the women's health clinic at 6-6787.

Maintaining security

Airman 1st Class Jennifer Benevides, 39th Communications Squadron visual imagery and intrusion detection systems technician, uses a wave form monitor to trouble shoot on a broken conrak monitor. Airman Benevides and others in her shop keep security systems for aircraft shelters running smoothly



Photo by Airman 1st Class Bradley Lail

Incirlik defibrillators safe for use, not recalled

NEWS

In March there was a total recall of Heartsine Automatic External Defibrillators. These defibrillators are not the AED's in buildings around Incirlik officials said.

The recall notification went out in an e-mail to people on Incirlik who mistook the Physio-Control made Lifepak 500 AEDs around the base for the recalled product.

"I've had numerous people forwarding this e-mail to me already asking about it," said Tech. Sgt. Joe Conley, 39th Medical Squadron NCO in charge of education and training. "The AEDs around base are a proven AED made by Physio-Control called a Lifepak 500. Not the Heartsine."

Medical equipment recalls are sent to the medical equipment repair office in an installation's hospital. This is the same office that handles the maintenance for all the AEDs on base.

All safety questions concerning the AEDs should be

directed to the MET office for technical assistance and information, said Sergeant Conley.

"The chain forwarding of this e-mail caused lots of confusion as people do not know what make and model they and have not attended the classes offered monthly by the hospital," he said.

HeartSine Technologies, Inc., initiated a worldwide recall of certain of their AEDs March 18. The devices could in some cases shut down before delivering a shock, which could result in a delay in treatment or death of a patient. None of these units are currently in use at Incirlik.

To take the class on AED use make an appointment with the hospital at 6-1469. For more information on the AEDs, call the Master Sgt. Joseph Catlin, 39th MDS NCO in charge of medical equipment repair, at 6-6507. (Courtesy 39th Air Base Wing Safety Office)



Deadline set to apply for developmental education

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — Mission-support and certain nonrated operations officers considering basic developmental education programs in 2006 have until June 15 to apply.

Officers in logistics, civil engineering, program management, developmental engineering, communications and information, services, public affairs, manpower and other mission-support career fields may apply for one or more developmental programs. Also, officers in intelligence, and space and missiles career fields can apply for exchange programs with the acquisition career field.

Available programs include:

- Air Force Institute of Technology or Naval postgraduate school.
- Education with industry.
- Space-lift education and crossover program.
- Space and missile acquisition exchange program.
- Acquisition and intelligence experience exchange tour.
- Acquisition and logistics experience exchange tour.
- Comptroller operation logistics tour.
- Marine Corps Expeditionary Warfare School.
- Information officer engineering exchange.

Officers must be released by their core assignment team before applying and submit a completed Air Force Information Management Tool 3849, PME/AFIT/RTFB Officer Worksheet, to the Air Force Personnel Center here.

E-mail addresses for application submissions and complete details about each program are available at local military personnel fairs or online at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/acquis/. (Courtesy of AFPC News Service)



Project Wizard, a U.S. Air Forces in Europe special interest program, focuses on the opportunities to study and explore through libraries. For more information about the program or upcoming events, call the library at 6-6759.

Ready to dig



Airman First Class Jonathan Tacto, 39th Communications Squadron, operates an RT 160 trencher for preparation of excavation April 21.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Bradley Lail

Fixing the lights

Senior Airman Brandon Urban, 39th Maintenance Squadron aerospace ground equipment technician, repairs a broken FL-1D flood light set on Incirlik Air Base Turkey.

'Lifecycle Funds' aim to maximize retirement savings

By Gerry Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Recent surveys show most people contributing to Department of Defense-sponsored thrift savings accounts shun riskier investment options and are not getting maximum returns to build bigger retirement nest eggs, a DOD thrift savings plan specialist said here April 20.

"The vast majority of participants do not fully take advantage of the Thrift Savings Plan," said Army Lt. Col. Janet Fenton, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council.

The Thrift Savings Plan is a 401k-type program designed to provide tax-deferred retirement nest eggs for servicemembers and civilian employees, Colonel Fenton said. TSP managers have noticed that "very few" participants transfer money out of more stable investment programs into riskier options, she said.

Some participants might be leery of riskier TSP investment options because they have little or no stock market savvy, Colonel Fenton said. However, the new Lifecycle Funds program option slated for implementation in July will allow TSP participants to have experienced money managers make investment decisions for them based on 10-year plans.

The Lifecycle Funds program "is going to help address the issue of people who want to take advantage of the Thrift Savings Plan but maybe are a little bit intimidated by making investment choices and allocating their participation contributions between all of the various funds," Colonel Fenton said.

The Lifecycle Fund program "is based on asset allocation within the fund, based on how long you are going to have that money in the fund until you retire," she said.

About \$60 billion of the total \$140 billion invested in TSP accounts

is currently concentrated in the less-risky Government Security Investment. The G fund, consisting of treasury bonds and other federal-backed investments, is considered among the most stable of the five TSP investment choices.

About \$61 billion of TSP contributions are now placed in the Common Stock Index Investment. Yet riskier options offered by the Fixed Income Index Investment, the Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment, and the International Stock Index Investment contain far fewer dollars, Colonel Fenton said.

Through use of the Lifestyle Fund program, "the money is allocated for you amongst the five funds without you having to do anything," she said. The system "is automatic" and "changes as your time in the military (or government) continues."

For example, typical investments early in a 10-year period would tend to be targeted toward riskier, but higher potential yield investment options, Colonel Fenton said. Investment choices would become more conservative as the end of the 10-year period nears, she said.

After the current TSP open-season investment choice system ends July 1, participants will be able to change their investment options at any time, Colonel Fenton said.

Although the program does not guarantee participants will make money on every investment, Colonel Fenton said riskier investment options usually produce higher returns over the long term.

Some people may feel safer to continue steering their funds to safer investments, Colonel Fenton said. But "to really leverage your contributions and make the most of the thrift savings plan," people need to move their money out of more conservative investment options and allocate it among the various funds that indicate potentially higher yields over time, she said.

Policy offers confidentiality to sexual-assault victims

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — A new Department of Defense policy allows sexual-assault victims to confidentially report crimes against them.

In a March memorandum to service secretaries, DOD officials directed all military branches implement restricted (confidential) reporting within 90 days.

The policy allows victims of sexual assault to seek care under restricted reporting procedures, without triggering an investigation or having their name or the name of their assailant reported up through their chain of command.

Under the new policy, victims will be able to talk with the sexual assault response coordinator, a victim advocate or certain medics. In the past, only chaplains could provide confidentiality.

This ensures victims of sexual assault get the medical care, counseling and victim advocacy they need following a sexual assault, even if they are not ready to deal with the investigative and legal aspects of reporting a crime, officials said.

“As we implement this policy, training is critical ... for commanders, supervisors, first responders and the entire force,” said Charlene Bradley, the Air Force’s Sexual Assault Task Force leader. “Everyone must un-

derstand the two avenues for reporting — restricted and unrestricted — and the importance of each to the victim and the mission.”

Many times, victims of sexual assault are not immediately ready to report what happened to them, officials said. There are perceived and real barriers to reporting that exist in society and the military — chief among those being the perceived lack of privacy and confidentiality.

“When you deal with military victims, there are many things they consider before reporting,” she said. “People are proud of being in the military, and one of the perceptions is that if the commander knows you have been sexually assaulted, he or she may think your effectiveness is reduced by that experience.”

Airmen at their home station might fear reporting a sexual assault will lead co-workers, a supervisor or commander to think differently about them or even question their behavior, Ms. Bradley said. While deployed or in training, they also fear being sent home and missing out on the opportunity to complete their mission.

While the names of sexual-assault victims will be withheld from commanders under the new restricted reporting procedure, the fact a sexual assault has occurred will be provided to commanders to assist them to assess the climate and increase prevention efforts.

IN THE NEWS

Power outages

There is a power outage from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday for buildings 1070, 1072, 1075, 1076, 1077, 1080, 1081, 1082, 1064 and 6051.

There is a power outage from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday for building 1066.

There is a power outage from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 6 for buildings 558, 564, 570, 590 and 590A.

For more information, call Sabahattin Celik at 6-8020 or 6-6570

Finance closure

Finance customer service closes at 10:30 a.m. today for an official function. For more information, call 6-6607.

WICO closure

The Women, Infants and Children Overseas is closed until May 10. For emergencies, call the regional office at Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England, at DSN 226-9016. After May 10, call 6-1237 for inquiries.

Summer hire

The civilian personnel office accepts applications for the 2005 Summer Hire Program until May 13. There are two types of jobs available: administrative clerk or laborer. Applicants will indicate in which type of position they are interested.

The U.S. Air Forces in Europe student summer hire program helps students gain marketable skills for future utilization and gives them a chance to be a part of Team Incirlik for the summer. For more information, call the civilian personnel office at 6-6416.

Annual FOD walk

The Annual runway foreign object debris walk is 8 a.m. May 13. Airfield operations is looking for volunteers to assist in removing debris from the pavements and infields around the runway. Volunteers meet at building 526 on the parking lot side. Transportation to the Airfield is provided. The individual that collects the most FOD earns a three-day pass. For more information, call Senior Airmen Byron Dawson or Bryan Masters at 6-6156.

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USAFE Idol rocks the house, Incirlik takes third

By Capt. Alisen Iversen

U.S. Air Forces in Europe News Service

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany

(USAFENS)— Nearly 900 people from across the command attended the U.S. Air Forces in Europe first ever USAFE Idol Talent Show held here April 23.

During a standing room-only competition, Maj. Lawrence Speer, C-20 pilot with the 76th Airlift Squadron here, was named the USAFE Idol.

The overwhelming theme of the competition: USAFE has a lot of musical talent.

"The talent level is phenomenal," said Mandy Smith-Nethercott, USAFE Services chief of marketing and entertainment. "There really is so much incredible talent in our Airmen."

Eight contestants, each a finalist from their respective base-level competition, participated in workshops with the USAFE Band, Touch 'n Go, April 20–22 to perfect their songs and stage presence before competing on the "big" night.

"We came in (to Ramstein Air Base) for three days of workshops which was a great experience," said Tech. Sgt. James Mull, an

air traffic controller from Incirlik AB, Turkey. "We worked on a lot of things, like how to make a song your own."

For the event, the finalists each sang two songs. Each performer was judged by a panel of four judges on their vocals, stage performance and whether the song difficulty was appropriate for their talent ability.

Songs covered a wide range of genres, including pop, rock, gospel and Broadway show tunes.

I really enjoyed being on stage, said finalist Senior Airman Elsie Lengyon, a personnelist assigned to Lajes Field, Azores.

"Being on stage is a rush and a lot of fun," she said. "But once (I get) on stage all the butterflies go away and then I'm able to convey my story. I like entertaining people; sharing my gift."

All of the finalists had a lot of respect for each others' talent.

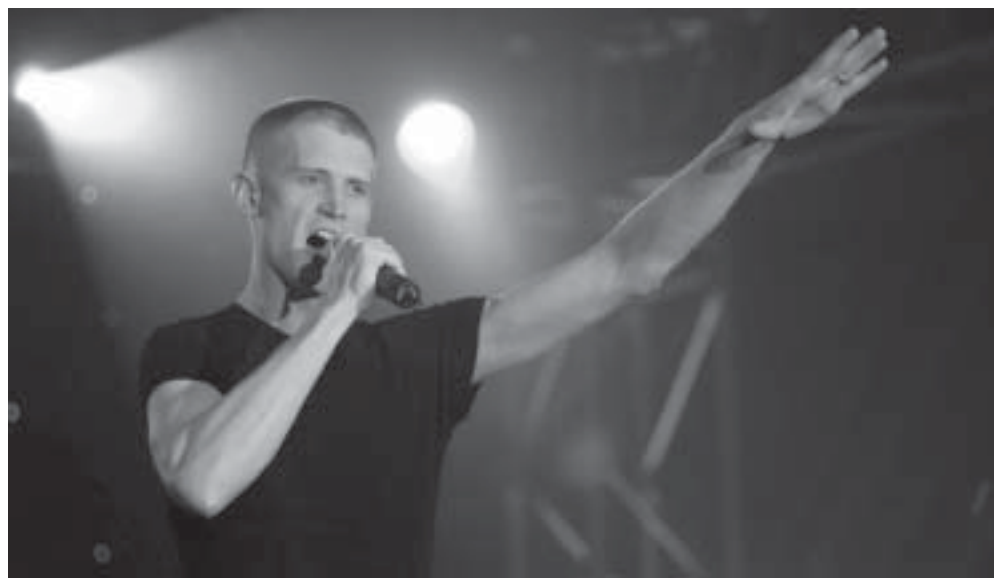
"I had no expectations (of winning) because of all the amazingly talented vocalists," said Maj. Speer after winning the competition. "It was an amazing experience; everyone was great!"

The crowd enjoyed the performances too; holding up signs, cheering and ap-



Photos by Master Sgt. John Lasky

Tech. Sgt. James Mull, 39th Operations Squadron air traffic controller, performs during the USAFE Idol talent show at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. Sergeant Mull placed third in the competition.



Senior Airman Michael Lemorie, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, performs during the talent show at Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

plauding loudly.

"These guys could rival any one of the contestants on American Idol," said Capt. Karen Bailey, 1st Combat Communications Squadron, who attended the event. "They could stomp them!" she added.

Overall, the series of competitions and the final show were a tremendous success and plans are in the works for it to be a yearly event, said Ms. Smith-Nethercott.

"I'm sure it will grow for future years," she said. "With the success we've had, how could we not do it again?"

The winners are:

First place: Maj. Lawrence Speer, Ramstein AB, Germany

Second place: Senior Airman Elise Lengyon, Lajes Field, Azores

Third place: Tech. Sgt. James Mull, Incirlik AB, Turkey

Honorable mention: Master Sgt. Tony Anthony, Naval Air Station Keflavik, Iceland

United States Air Forces in Europe



Hidden Heroes is a U.S. Air Forces in Europe special interest program that recognizes people and programs that make a difference to the base and community. The program's goal is to increase volunteerism throughout Incirlik and USAFE. To volunteer, call the family support center at 6-6755.



Ask MEHMET

By Mehmet Birbiri, Host Nation Adviser

Respecting the flag

Question: Mehmet, I have noticed that many shops, buildings, houses and apartment buildings have been hanging Turkish flags for the last month or so. I even saw some vehicles with Turkish flags in them. Is there a special reason for this?

Response: Just like in any country, People in Turkey hang national flags all over the country on national days. Saturday, was a Turkish national holiday, National Sovereignty and Children's Day, and the whole country was decorated with Turkish flags and special ceremonies were held in honor of that day.

There is another reason Turkish flags have been hanging all over for a while. The beginning of spring or 'Nevruz' was March 22. This day has been celebrated in middle-eastern and central Asian nations, including Turkey for centuries. Ceremonies were held in various cities all over Turkey.

During the ceremonies held in Mersin that day, separatist PKK supporters held a rally protesting Turkey. During that rally, a Turkish flag was stepped on and torn by demonstrators. This made people all over Turkey angry and as a reaction, Turks who are proud of their history and their flag hung Turkish flags all over the country and kept them flying.

Kandil

Question: Mehmet, I was driving by the Sabanci Mosque April 20 and noticed the mosque was illuminated very nicely and was crowded. It surprised me to see that many people at that time of the evening in the mosque. Was there a special celebration or event going on?

Response: The celebration last Wednesday was *Kandil*. Turks have a personal way of following Islam. A great number of Muslim Turks enjoy alcoholic beverages, smoke cigarettes and make the most of the "good things in life," but will take care not to do



Courtesy photo

Like the American flag to Americans, The Turkish flag has a lot of significance to Turks. During a protest in march people burned and tore a Turkish flag. This caused many Turks to decide to fly their nation's flag in pride from their homes and offices.

these during religious occasions such as *Ramazan* (Ramadan) or the *Kandil*.

Kandil, which means candle, is a mosque festival. It is so called because all the mosques are illuminated. During those festivals, Muslims pray for forgiveness and wish to see things done according to their religion.

The story of Kandil

The five holy evenings on the Muslim calendar are called *Kandil*. During the Ottoman Empire, Sultan Selim II of 16th century lit candles on the minarets of the mosques in order to announce these holy nights to the public. Since this calendar is calculated with the revolution of the moon around the earth, the dates of the *Kandils* differ every year.

♦ *Mevlid Kandili* – The birth of Prophet Mohammad (April 20, 2005)

♦ *Regaip Kandili* – The beginning of the pregnancy of Prophet Mohammad's mother (August 11, 2005)

♦ *Mirac Kandili* – Prophet Mohammad's rising to sky (August 31, 2005)

♦ *Berat Kandili* – The forgiveness of the sins (September 13, 2005)

♦ *Kadir Gecesi* – The Koran's (Muslims holy book) first appearance to Prophet Mohammad (October 30, 2005)

These nights Muslims usually worship and sing *Mevlit*, a poem written for the birth of Mohammad.

Kandils were holy days when young members visited the older members of the family. Today, the *Kandil* greetings can be made with phone calls.

Most of the pastry shops and bakeries sell special, small crispy bread rings strewn

with or without sesame seeds called *Kandil Simidi*. In some apartments the neighbors hand out a special Turkish dessert made of semolina or flour called *helva* or *Lokma Tatlisi*, a special dessert made of fried dough with syrup. (Information from www.mymerhaba.com)

In Turkish

bayrak - flag
(bye - rock)

tarih - history
(tah - reh)

kirmizi - red
(kher - meh - zeh)

beyaz - white
(beh - yahz)

peygamber - prophet
(pay - gum - behr)

hayat - life
(hi - ath)

Do you have a question about something Turkish? Ask Mehmet. To submit a question, call 6-6060 or e-mail mehmet.birbiri@incirlik.af.mil

Spring Fling celebrates month of military child

By Senior Airman Jessica Switzer
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Horns, sirens, and a band on a flat bed truck announced the start of the Incirlik Spring Fling Saturday.

The parade that kicked off the festival wound through Eagle and Falcon housing before arriving at Arkadas Park. Organizations from across the base had set up booths, games and displays around the park.

"I think they should do one of these each month in the summer," said Staff Sgt. Trish Keen, 39th Mission Support Squadron manpower analyst. "People get cooped up because of the heat, but when there's something to go out and do you kind of forget about the heat."

The day was warm and, except for a brief rain shower early in the afternoon, clear. Incirlik community members had a chance to participate in activities like face painting, games and play in one of the two bouncy castles there.

"We had a lot of contests for people who wanted to participate," said Wiyanda Lee, 39th Services Squadron 39th Services Squadron youth director. "There were pet contests for best groomed and best costume. We had a costume contest for people too, it was a lot of fun. A lot of children had a chance to show off their talents."

There was live entertainment for the Incirlik community throughout the day. Participants from the youth talent and Incirlik Idol contests performed pieces. There were also performances from the youth gymnas-



Photo by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards

Senior Airman Andrea Mosca, 39 Medical Squadron, Immediate Care Clinic medical technician, paints on Jordan Tinder, age 6. Airman Mosca paints as part of her Airman Leadership School class project at the Spring Fling. Other activities included bouncy castles, a costume contest, a pet competition, games and a dunking booth.

tics, and dance classes.

Other activities tied in Earth Day. Many squadrons and base organizations planted trees near the park as a part of the activities.

Around 3 p.m. the Incirlik community was treated to a performance by Turkish dancers from the local area. The girls and boys performed a few numbers, stepping and bouncing in time to the drums and horns.

Near lunch time food booths began to overflow with patrons. Various organizations

like the Incirlik chapter of The Air Force Sergeants Association, the Incirlik 50th Anniversary fundraising committee, 39th Services Squadron and many others met the demand with hamburgers, hotdogs, caramel apples, cotton candy and ethnic foods.

"We didn't make as much as I thought we would," said Martha Valdez, fundraiser for the Incirlik 50th Anniversary celebration. "But some organizations really raked it in."

2005 Intramural Volleyball Standings

As of Wednesday

	<u>Win</u>	<u>Loss</u>
728th AMS	5	0
39th MDS	3	0
39th SFS	4	1
39th SVS	3	1
Men's Varsity	3	1
39th CS	3	3
39th LRS	1	1
39th CPTS	1	4
39th ABW	1	4
DODDS	1	3
High School	1	3
Women's Varsity	0	4

Regular Intramural Bowling League Standings

Season Concluded April 19

1. CES 168-72	7. SVS 128-112	13. LRS #2 109-131
2. COMM #1 162-78	8. 728 #2 125-115	14. 728 #1 104-136
3. AMMO 138-102	9. SFS #2 122-118	15. MED RED 100-140
4. LRS #1 130-110	10. WING/MSS #2 116-124	16. WING/MSS #1 98-142
5. CONS 130-110	11. MED BLUE 113-127	17. OS 96-144
6. SFS #1 128-112	12. OSI 113-127	18. COMM #2 80-160

Base bowling: Intramural Championship continues

Four teams continue to roll off for the Base bowling Intramural championship.

After two weeks of competition COMM has made it to the finals, undefeated. CES is standing by in the loser's bracket and will either face 728 AMS #1 or SVS Friday night at 6 p.m.

The top eight teams from the regular league standings moved on to compete in the base championship. The championship match is Monday 6 p.m. at the Magic Carpet Bowling Center. For more information, call MSgt. Edward Freitas 6-8222.

THE INCIRLIK GUIDE

Pool passes on sale

Pool passes are on sale at outdoor recreation. Individual passes are \$30 per month and \$100 for the year. Family passes are \$40 per month and \$135 for the year. Aqua aerobics passes are \$30 per month. Day passes are \$2 for ages 1 to 12 years old and \$2.50 for those older than 12. For more information, call 6-6044.

Key Spouses evening

The Key Spouses, Family Support Center and the Incirlik Combined Spouses Club are hosting an evening of bunko and food for all Incirlik spouses from 4:30 to 7 p.m. May 6 at the Incirlik club complex. For more information, call Richele Kemper at 6-8289

PTSC meeting

Nominations for Incirlik high school Parent Teacher Student Club board members are being accepted through May 9. Elections are 5 p.m. May 10. To make a nomination or for more information, call Senior Master Sgt. John Herkel at 6-6439.

Mother's Day gifts

The 39th Services Squadron is offering a number of Mother's Day gift packages. Orders can be placed through the community center. For more information, call Nerissa Atkisson at 6-6966 or 6-1032.

Beginner Yoga Classes

Yoga classes for beginners are 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in racquet ball court four at the fitness center. Classes are \$20 for eight, one-hour classes taught by a certified Yoga Fit instructor. For more information, call the fitness center at 6-6086.

Women's Soccer

The base women's soccer team meets 2 p.m. Sundays at the high school soccer field. Anyone who wants to learn or play soccer can attend practices. For more information, call Stephanie Martin at 6-6810 or e-mail at stephanie.martin@incirlik.af.mil.

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK



Staff Sgt. Seneca Getz
39th Security Forces Squadron
Unit Training Scheduler

Time in service: Four and a half years

Hometown: Moore, Okla.

Time on station: Nine months



Yard Sale: A yard sale is 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at 3154B Izmir in Phantom housing. Items for sale include children's clothes, kitchenware and appliances, linens, toys books and other miscellaneous items. For more information, call Rani Thomas at 6-5286.

Yard Sale: A yard sale is 8 a.m. to noon May 7 at 3915A Redwood Street in Eagle housing. Items for sale include infant toys and clothes, movie and a dining room table with a leaf and four chairs. Owner is PCSing and must sell. For more information, call Jeremy Morris at 6-5950.

For Sale: 1984 Mercedes 240SE, straight six and automatic transmission that has been well maintained. New tires, CD player, seat heaters and air conditioning. Selling for \$2,000. For more information, call William Harlan at 6-6363.

Dog for sale: Jack Russell Terrier for sale to good home. \$400 O.B.O. Spayed, tail clipped, has rabies shot and health certificate, house trained and wonderful with children. For more information, call 6-5150 after 5 p.m. or 0-537-747-7804

For sale: Locally made computer armoire and matching bookcase. Dark cherry finish. Not quite big enough for what we need. Paid \$1,000 willing to sell for \$700 O.B.O. For more information, call Kevin at 5-5333 or 6-6910.

Hobbies: Playing volleyball, poker and exercising.

Why did you join the Air Force? To travel the world and see one desert at a time.

What do you like the most about Incirlik? The weather is great and the pay is not bad.

How do you contribute to the mission?

I schedule all security forces members for the training they need to ensure they are capable of supporting full spectrum operations.

What Air Force core value best describes you ?

Integrity First

Supervisor's quote:

"Staff Sgt. Getz, is what all junior NCOs should emulate," said Tech. Sgt. Brian Lewis, 39th Security Forces Squadron NCO in charge of training. "Her vast knowledge of all avenues of security and law enforcement gives her the ability to lead and execute tasks in any given situation."

Wanted: Someone licensed in or experienced with patent law is needed to help an individual. For more information, call David Ulmer at 6-2825 or 6-3514.

Cookies available: Girl Scout Cookies are still available. To order or for more information, call April Rogers at 0535-214-8513.

Position available: Department of Defense Dependent Schools is currently accepting applications for a secretary. Applications may be picked up at the Incirlik elementary school. For more information, call 6-3109.

Position available: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University is seeking individuals with a master's degree or higher who would like to earn additional income teaching. Areas of interest include management, human resources, international affairs and public safety. Schedules are flexible. For more information, call Richard Todd at 6-1098.

Services available: The Incirlik club complex can deliver full and half-sheet cakes for birthdays and other important occasions. For more information, call 6-6101.

Nanny available: People looking for a nanny can call Ebony Salvati at 6-5311 after 4:30 p.m.

Dog trainer needed: A dog trainer is needed to train a 2-year-old female Shih-Tzu. Owner will pay to work with the trainer. For more information, call 6-2429 in the evenings.



Photo by Brian Temple

Making changes

Ibrahim Erden, quality control engineer with EMTA construction company, updates Capt. Tyler Faulk, TUSEG, on the progress of the large vehicle inspection site. Due to increased force protection measures worldwide, the Corps has helped many customers throughout theater with improved force protection construction. This facility will be used to inspect large commercial vehicle traffic travelling in, and out of, Incirlik Air Force Base.

COMBAT, SPECIAL INTEREST PROGRAM

Crossroads Café

Today: The 39th Security Forces Squadron sponsors food and fellowship at the Crossroads Café from 7 to 11 p.m. It is open to ages 18 and older. **Saturday:** The Protestant Men of the Chapel sponsor food and fellowship from 6 to 10 p.m. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Dianne Garvey at 6-6441.

Combat Touch happenings

There is no **Catholic daily Mass** until May 17. For more information, call Patty Heidlage at 6-3890.

The Protestant Women of the Chapel sponsor **Crafts, Chats and Chocolate** from 6 p.m. to midnight May 6 at the chapel annex. For more information, call LeeAnn Moore at 6-5946.

The Protestant Women of the chapel sponsor two **women's bible studies** in May. The first is 9 to 11 a.m. and the other is 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays beginning Tuesday in the Chapel Conference Room. For more information, call Auline Platt at 6-5959.

A **Christian Women's Luncheon**, sponsored by the Protestant Women of the Chapel, is noon to 1 p.m. May 12 at the Crossroads Café. For more information, call Melanie McDade at 6-9381.



AT THE OASIS

Today

7 p.m. – The Pacifier (PG) (1st Run) – Starring Vin Diesel and Brad Garrett. An undercover agent fails to protect an important government scientist and then agrees to look after the man's five out-of-control kids when they are suddenly thrust into danger. (91 minutes)

9:15 p.m. – Boogeyman (PG-13) – Starring Barry Watson and Emily Deschanel. Tim is a man who is still haunted by traumatic memories of his past, many linked to the death of his father. Tim wants to convince himself the ghostly memories he carries are just a figment of his imagination, but there may be a kernel of truth to them. (86 minutes)

Saturday

5 p.m. – Are We There Yet (PG) – Starring Ice Cube and Nia Long. Nick, a smooth operator, is trying to land a date with Suzanne. Problem is, Suzanne is miserable because she misses her kids. Seizing the opportunity, Nick gallantly offers to make her wish come true - and his own in the process. (82 minutes)

7:30 p.m. – The Pacifier (PG) (1st Run) – Starring Vin Diesel and Brad Garrett. (91 minutes)

Sunday

7 p.m. – The Aviator (PG-13) – Starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Cate Blanchett. A snapshot in the life of the legendary Howard Hughes as he begins to direct the 1930 film "Hell's Angels" starring Jean Harlow. (169 minutes)

Thursday

7 p.m. – The Wedding Date (PG-13) – Starring Debra Messing and Dermot Mulroney. Kat Ellis's younger, half-sister is getting married before her, and to add insult to injury, the groom's best man is Kat's ex-fiancée, Jeffrey. Unable to bear the thought of attending alone, she hires an escort to play her boyfriend. (90 minutes)

AT THE M1

The Interpreter (PG-13) — 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. (128 minutes)

After the Sunset (PG-13) — 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7:15 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. (100 minutes)

Movie listings are subject to changes. On-base listings are courtesy of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service Web site at <http://www.aafes.com/ems/euro/incirlik.htm>; M-1 listings are courtesy of the Tempe Cinemaxx Web site at www.tepecinemaxx.com.tr. For more Oasis information and updates, call the movie recording at 6-6986 or the theater office at 6-9140.